

sequentially on a guide support (70) by a driving and positioning arrangement (24, 73, 28, 75, 72), said elevator (20) being made up of a parallelepiped mobile plate (23) fitted with a plurality of fixed platforms (227), each fixed platform including connection devices (22i, 22n) connecting to the integrated circuit of portable objects (4) loaded in said platform, said fixed platforms (227) being loaded through an incoming/outgoing arrangement for receiving said portable objects (4) on a position on the transfer line.

2. (Amended) Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 1, wherein said guide support (70) is made up of a parallelepiped support plate (71) whose length is approximately equal to twice the length of said personalization elevator (20), comprising a vertical slit (72), two vertical rails (73) and two pulleys (74) joined together by an elevator belt (75).

A 3. (Amended) Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 2, wherein the driving and positioning arrangement comprises a holder (24) for holding in place and sliding said elevator (20) in said rails (73), and a driving fixation (28) firmly anchoring said elevator (20) to said elevator belt (75), the vertical slit (72) of guide support (70) forming a track for the driving fixation (28) of said elevator (20), the driving and positioning arrangement allowing each fixed platform (227) to be brought to a halt level with the portable objects (4) conveyed by said transfer system (3).

4. (Amended) Linear personalization machine according to claim 2, wherein said belt (75) of said guide support (70) is periodically set in motion by a motor such that the upward and downward movements of said elevator (20) along the guide support (70) are

regularly interrupted at the level of the incoming/outgoing arrangement position on the transfer line to enable the loading and unloading of portable objects (4).

5. (Amended) Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 3, wherein the driving fixation (28) is located at the center of said parallelepiped plate (23) and comprises, at its end point, a connector for anchoring to said elevator belt (75) of said guide support (70).

A 6. (Amended) Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 1, further comprising a decoder package (250) connected, by an address bus (257) and a data bus (258), to a plurality of personalization cards (21i) by a first parallel port (216) of the card, each of said personalization cards (21i) controlling one of the connection devices (22i, 22n) and being connected in parallel to a backplane computer (241) via a second parallel port (215).

7. (Amended) Linear personalization machine according to claim 1, wherein the connection devices (22i) enable testing of the electronic chips and activation of the electric contacts and/or contactless terminals of said portable objects (4).

8. (Amended) Linear personalization machine in accordance with claim 7, wherein when the connection devices (22) have detected a faulty portable object (4), the portable object is unloaded from said elevator (20) before personalization thereof.

9. (Amended) Linear personalization machine according to claim 1, further comprising a computerized control and management (243) for controlling and managing execution of personalization processes, portable objects (4, 4i, 4j) positions, connecting device (22i, 22n) positions, and/or connection quality.